

Minutes of the
Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University
Regular Meeting
September 15, 2022

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. by Board Chair Eric Wasowicz in the Board of Trustees Room, 315 Altgeld Hall.

Recording Secretary Crystal Doyle conducted a roll call.

Vice Chair Rita Athas: Absent

Trustee Dennis Barsema: Present

Trustee John Butler: Present

Trustee Montel Gayles: Present

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Present

Trustee Tim Moore: Absent

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Absent

Board Chair Eric Wasowicz: Present

Also present: President Lisa Freeman; Vice President and General Counsel and Board Parliamentarian Bryan Perry; Chief of Staff and Board Liaison Matt Streb; Vice President for Student Affairs Clint-Michael Reneau; Vice President for Research and Innovation Partnerships Jerry Blazey; Vice President for Academic Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Vernese Edghill-Walden; Dean of the Libraries Fred Barnhart; and University Advisory Council (UAC) Representatives Holly Nicholson and Katy Jaekel.

VERIFICATION OF QUORUM AND APPROPRIATE NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

General Counsel Perry indicated that appropriate notification of the meeting has been provided pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act. Mr. Perry also advised that a quorum was present.

MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Trustee Gayles so moved, and Trustee Butler seconded. The motion was approved.

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to amend that motion, in order to approve a consent agenda for action items 8.a.1. through 8.a.3. Trustee Butler so moved, and Trustee Gayles seconded. The motion was approved.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 18, 2022

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve the minutes of August 18, 2022. Trustee Herrero so moved, and Trustee Barsema seconded. The motion was approved.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Wasowicz welcomed the members of the University Advisory Committee who were present and asked if any of the UAC members had any comments.

UAC Representative Nicholson expressed how excited she is for the Board of Trustees Staff Excellence Award that will be presented during the meeting. Representatives also shared some

words from UAC member Felicia Bohanon and her appreciation of reimagining the Board of Trustees Staff Excellence Award.

Chair Wasowicz mentioned how great it was to be back in school and to see students on campus. He thanked the trustees for all their work and commitment to serving on the NIU Board of Trustees.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Wasowicz introduced the public comment portion of the meeting. General Counsel Perry stated that there were no registered public comments.

REPORTS OF THE BOARD COMMITTEES AND BOARD LIAISONS

Chair Wasowicz reminded everyone that the reports of the Board Committees and the Board Liaisons are information only.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT NO. 163

Chair Wasowicz asked President Freeman to present the President's Report No. 163.

UNIVERSITY RECOMMENDATIONS FORWARDED BY THE BOARD COMMITTEES

President Freeman presented the items that were moved to the consent agenda including:

Agenda Item 8.a.1. Bowl Game Participation Expenses

Agenda Item 8.a.2. Education Systems Center Early Childhood Transformation Team

Agenda Item 8.a.3. Education Systems Center Chicago-Based Lease Extension

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda items. Trustee Gayles so moved, and Trustee Butler seconded. The motion was approved.

UNIVERSITY REPORTS FORWARDED BY THE BOARD COMMITTEES

President Freeman asked whether any Trustees wanted to revisit information items forwarded from the committees.

President Freeman continued to the items directly from the President.

Vice Chair Athas joined the meeting at 9:14 a.m.

ITEMS DIRECTLY FROM THE PRESIDENT

Agenda Item 8.c.1. Collective Bargaining Agreement for the NIU Instructors' Unit, Local #4100 of the University Professionals of Illinois

President Freeman presented agenda item 8.c.1. for approval.

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve item 8.c.1. Trustee Butler so moved, and Trustee Barsema seconded. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 8.c.2. Surplus Real Estate Property Determination Nursing Building

President Freeman presented agenda item 8.c.2. for approval.

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve item 8.c.2. Trustee Butler so moved, and Trustee Gayles seconded. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 8.c.3. Establishment of Board of Trustees Staff Excellence Award

President Freeman presented agenda item 8.c.3. for approval.

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve item 8.c.3. Vice Chair Athas so moved, and Trustee Barsema seconded. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 8.c.4. Investment in Cash Management Policy

President Freeman presented agenda item 8.c.4. for approval.

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve item 8.c.4. Trustee Butler so moved, and Trustee Herrero seconded. The motion was approved.

Ten-minute break at 9:35 a.m.

Trustee Moore joined the meeting at 9:37 a.m.

Returned from break at 9:45

Agenda Item 8.c.5. Fiscal Year 2022 Report Tuition and Fee Waivers

Agenda Item 8.c.6. University Libraries Overview

President Freeman presented agenda item 8.c.6. Fred Barnhart, Dean of the University Libraries presented an overview of the University Libraries.

The Trustees thanked Dean Barnhart for his presentation and loved hearing about all that is happening in the University Libraries.

CHAIR'S REPORT NO. 103

Chair Wasowicz presented the Chair's report No. 103.

Agenda Item 9.a. Board of Trustees 2023 Meeting Dates

Chair Wasowicz presented agenda item 9.a. for approval.

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve item 9.a. Trustee Herrero so moved, and Trustee Barsema seconded. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 9.b. Closed Session Minutes Review and Release

Chair Wasowicz presented agenda item 9.b. for approval.

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve item 9.b. Trustee Gayles so moved, and Vice Chair Athas seconded. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 9.c. Board of Trustees Bylaw Periodic Review

Chair Wasowicz presented agenda item 9.c. for approval.

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve item 9.c. Trustee Herrero so moved, and Vice Chair Athas seconded. The motion was approved.

OTHER MATTERS

There were no other matters.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Chair Wasowicz announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held December 8, 2022, at 9 a.m.

CLOSED SESSION

Chair Wasowicz stated that the Board needed to go into closed session and would not take up new business following the closed session. He asked for a motion to close the public meeting to conduct closed session to discuss the following subjects as authorized by the Open Meetings Act: collective bargaining matters as generally described under section 2(c)(2) of the open meetings act; litigation and risk management matters as generally described under sections 2(c)(11) and (12) of the open meetings act; real estate matters as generally described under section 2(c)(5)&(6) of the open meetings act; personnel matters as generally described under sections 2(c)(1)(2)(3) and (21) of the open meetings act; and closed session minutes matters as generally described under section 2(c)(21) of the open meetings act.

Trustee Gayles so moved, and Trustee Herrero seconded. The motion was approved.

The Board closed the public meeting at 10:20 a.m.

The meeting reconvened from closed session at 3:38 p.m.

Chair Wasowicz asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call.

Vice Chair Rita Athas: Present

Trustee Dennis Barsema: Present

Trustee John Butler: Present

Trustee Montel Gayles: Present

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent

Trustee Tim Moore: Present

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Absent

Board Chair Eric Wasowicz: Present

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Moore so moved, and Trustee Barsema seconded.

Chair Wasowicz asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call.

Vice Chair Rita Athas: Present

Trustee Dennis Barsema: Present

Trustee John Butler: Present

Trustee Montel Gayles: Present

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent

Trustee Tim Moore: Present

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Absent

Board Chair Eric Wasowicz: Present

The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 3:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Crystal Doyle

Recording Secretary

In compliance with Illinois Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/1, et seq, a verbatim record of all Northern Illinois University Board of Trustees meetings is maintained by the Board Recording Secretary and is available for review upon request. The minutes contained herein represent a true and accurate summary of the Board proceedings.